

MONSTER REPUBLICAN RALLY

(Continued from page 1)

man ever had more loyal or generous support at the hands of his friends, and no successful candidate ever appreciated the support more than I do. My nomination is the more gratifying to me because it comes not from ring or caucus but direct from the people. I believe in popular government and the right of the people to nominate their own public officers.

"The direct primary law has come to stay, and it ought to stay. It imposes burdens upon the candidates greater than those of the convention system, but it also lodges political power with the voters, where it rightfully belongs. I believe the law will be increasingly popular with the people and, while some changes in detail may prove to be desirable in the light of experience, the plan of nominating public officers by direct vote of the people must not be disturbed.

"It is my paramount desire to prove worthy as a candidate of the trust imposed in me and, if elected, to justify the confidence of the people who have supported me. For 35 years Oregon has been my home. It is with pardonable pride that I refer to the fact that I came to this state when a boy. My manhood has been spent with the people of Oregon. I believe that I know them and appreciate their needs. I yield to no man in loyalty to the State of Oregon and in my faith in its future.

"It is by desire that the campaign which I am to conduct with my Democratic opponents shall be a dignified campaign, free from personal abuse. I have no disposition to indulge in epithets. I do claim that the record of the Republican party in the past is its pledge of usefulness in the present. I believe that its principles were made for the welfare of the people and that at this time the endorsement of these principles is more important than any question of preference between men.

"It is proper, however, that I should say that no man has higher ideals than I of what a public official should be. He should be fearless in the performance of his duties. He should be amenable to reason, but when sure he is right he should not be afraid of criticism. He should, moreover, be a man of clean life, an example to others, one to whom the people may look with pride, both in his capacity as a private citizen and in his record as a public official. He should take the people into his confidence.

"The government is the government of the people. They are entitled to know what their public officials are doing and it should be the aim of the executive branch of the government honestly and impartially to enforce the laws which the people have made.

"This is a critical time for the Republican party of Oregon. Although the state is Republican by a vote of more than two to one, many of our important offices are filled by members of the opposing party. If the Republican organization is to be maintained in Oregon, and if Republican policies are to be supported, Republicans must vote the Republican ticket. I believe the Republican party has a great mission yet to perform for the country in general, and for the State of Oregon in particular. If elected it shall be my aim to heal the wounds inflicted by 10 years of factional strife and to do all in my power to strengthen the party organization, with a view to its increased efficiency in the public service.

"We are entering upon an era of tremendous development. The world has awakened to a knowledge of the value

of our forests and mines. Men in distant states have learned of the fertility of our soil, the productiveness of our farms and orchards. Capital is seeking investment within the state for the development of our varied resources and the improvement of our means of communication. Our public officers should be full of a spirit of a greater Oregon. The improvement of our rivers and harbors, the construction of new lines of railway, all will make for the prosperity and comfort of the people, and all of these new enterprises should be encouraged by the people of the state and its public officials.

"In my campaign for the nomination I promised the people I would advocate and support the following measures: Taxation of franchises and gross earnings tax on telegraph, telephone, express and sleeping-car corporations; uniform assessment and taxation of railroads; state regulation and examination of private banks; trust companies and savings banks; protection of the state in its ownership of public lands; a board of control for state institutions; one board of management of normal schools; improvement of the Columbia and Willamette rivers and Coast seaports; national ownership of the Oregon City locks; constitutional amendment permitting the Governor or the people to veto individual items of appropriation; an honest and fearless performance of public duty. If I am chosen in June these pledges shall be inviolably kept.

"A question of vital importance to the people of Oregon at the present time is the question of taxation. There is a widespread feeling, in which I concur, that the burdens of taxation in this state have in the past been inequitably distributed. The support of the government in all its various branches has fallen for the most part on the owners of real estate.

"I believe that the policy of our laws should be to increase the revenues of the state from indirect taxation and the taxation of intangible properties, to the end that real estate may ultimately be free from taxation for state purposes. This result has been reached in some of the Commonwealths of the Union and the time will come when a similar result can be reached in Oregon.

"I believe in the taxation of franchises. A franchise is property in just as real a sense as a farm. There are franchises in the State of Oregon which are more productive than any hundred farms. I know of no reason why a farm should be taxed and a franchise should escape taxation. I am opposed to the granting of perpetual franchises and favor a general law depriving municipalities of the power to grant franchises for more than a stated period of years.

"There is a widespread belief that franchises in the past have been secured by debauching City Councils and paying to the grafter compensation which rightfully belongs to the people. I believe that with every franchise there should be a condition requiring the owner of the franchise to pay to the public a proportionate part of the earnings from year to year, by way of compensation for the special privileges granted.

"Where a franchise has been unfairly secured from the people or where it has been improvidently granted the people should repossess themselves of such franchise by the revocation thereof when possible or by the exercise of eminent domain, if necessary.

"In this connection I will say that I believe every perpetual franchise is improvidently granted for the reason that the conditions of today are not the conditions of tomorrow. Provisions which protect the interest of the people today may be totally inadequate a few years hence. Public utilities with but few exceptions, I believe are best administered



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by private interest rather than by public servants for in the latter case self-interest with greatest incentives, is lacking and thriftless and unbusinesslike methods will surely sooner or later prevail.

"A public utility is a public asset and the interest of the public therein should be safeguarded by adequate laws. I believe that the people should reserve control over all public utility franchises to the extent necessary to insure the greatest efficiency of the public service at the least expense, subject only to the right of capital to be justly compensated for its investment. I must not be taken, however, to have a lack of regard for vested interests; our laws the demand solvency of private banking institutions, and it is wise that laws should be passed providing for a system of report from state and private banks, akin to the information now exacted by the federal government from national banks. I am opposed to the creation of needless offices, although it would seem as if a state bank examiner were a necessity.

"The burdens of the taxpayer are sufficiently heavy at present. They should not be increased without good cause being shown. I believe that the office of State Land Agent should be abolished. The lands of the State of Oregon have been for the most part disposed of and the properties which the state now owns can be properly looked after by the clerk of the State Land Board. One of the first duties of a public servant is that of economy in the expenditure of the public money.

"No public official should wink at the waste of the people's resources. If I shall be elected governor it will be my effort to fight all extravagance and promote a careful and economical administration of the laws.

"Among other reforms which invite the attention of the people of Oregon is the pernicious custom of tacking riders on general appropriation bills. Our constitution should be so amended as to permit the veto power to be exercised on individual items of every appropriation bill. Every appropriation should stand or fall upon its own merits. Bills so framed as to prevent this call for a prompt veto, and this power fearlessly exercised will speedily correct this long established abuse of legislative power.

"The State of Oregon should adopt rational measures for the protection of our immense forest wealth. Great losses annually occur from fire which can be largely obviated by a well regulated patrol system. These losses run up into the millions of dollars, and while the effect of this loss may not be felt at present, our indifference at least deprives posterity of a rich inheritance. I favor a broad and generous policy for the conservation and development of the great natural wealth which nature has so bountifully bestowed upon our state.

"Every legitimate means should be employed by the state to facilitate the transportation of the products of our various industrial enterprises. One of the greatest problems affecting the general prosperity of our people is cheap transportation. The natural waterways of the state should be made available for unobstructed transportation at the earliest possible date.

"The tribute exacted from the products of our farms, mills and factories at the Oregon City locks should be abolished. By a persistent and united effort on the part of our people this barrier to competitive transportation can be removed. This will mean added value to every pound of hops, every bushel of grain and to every other commercial commodity tributary to this waterway.

"The portage railway at Celilo should be made as near canal conditions as practicable. The lowest possible freight rate only should be exacted. In this way a great system of transportation can be built up in the Upper Columbia and its tributaries, thus stimulating production and adding to the prosperity of our people over an immense area of our commonwealth.

"Nothing will add more to the prosperity and happiness of our rural population than will good public highways. It is unnecessary at this time to enter into details, but suffice it to say that I believe the state should give substantial assistance to the betterment of our public highways. Instead of our convicts being brought into competition with the honest skilled labor of law-abiding citizens they should be employed upon the roads. That prison labor in the construction of roads is a success has been fully demonstrated by Multnomah county. With a well organized co-operative effort on the part of the state and the various counties it is confidently believed that within a few years material progress will have been made toward a better system of public highways throughout the state.

"I am a friend of the public school system of the state. A republican form of government cannot exist except among an intelligent people, and all of the instincts of self-preservation require the government to provide a fair measure of education for the people. The state should therefore, have and properly support higher institutions of learning.

"The pardoning power of the governor should be exercised with extreme caution. When a man has been convicted of crime by a jury of his fellow-citizens and when a court has sentenced him to a term in the penitentiary, public justice and the public safety require that in all ordinary cases he should remain there during the term for which he has been sentenced. He should not be pardoned because of political influence which he can bring to bear on the governor, nor because good-natured citizens can be induced to sign a petition for his release.

"Especially is this true of the professional criminal. The public safety demands that this class be confined within the jails and penitentiaries where they cannot prey upon the lives and property of law-abiding citizens. I make this statement on the subject of pardons because I believe that in the past pardons have been granted with too great liberality.

"The Governor of Oregon should be the servant of the people. The people should have his ear and it should be his endeavor to serve the people. If I shall be chosen governor it will be my endeavor to administer the office along these lines. I shall invite suggestions from the people on all matters relating to the public welfare and shall endeavor to administer the office with justice to all and special privileges to none.

"In conclusion I commend to the consideration of the voters of the state the other candidates of the republican party. They have all been nominated by direct vote of the people. The primary has afforded an opportunity for a fair expression of the popular will. The primary law is on trial in this campaign. If the candidates of the majority party are defeated at the polls the primary law will be discredited and there will be an agitation for its repeal.

"For these reasons, and also because of my respect for my associates on the republican ticket, I call upon all republicans of the state to support them at the polls. Oregon has been one of the banner republican states of the Union. Let it prove itself so at the coming election and let our majority be so large that it will announce to the world most emphatically that the people of Oregon have confidence in the matchless leader of the republican party—Theodore Roosevelt."

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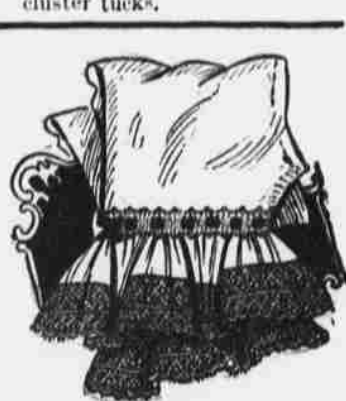
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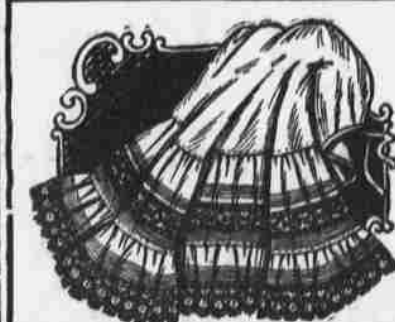
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